

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100  
Sacramento, California

CONTACT: John Carr  
916-419-2525

PR 07-117  
September 10, 2007

## **Two Cited for Selling Alcohol to Minors**

*ABC Conducts Undercover Operation in Paramount and Hawaiian Gardens*

**Hawaiian Gardens-Paramount** - Investigators of the California Department Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) conducted a minor decoy operation September 6, 2007 in the cities of Hawaiian Gardens and Paramount and cited two persons for selling alcohol to a minor decoy. The actions were the result of a compliance check operation funded through the Friday Night Live Partnership Grant Program in which a minor under the direct supervision of the investigators, attempted to purchase alcohol from 20 separate retail licensees. Two of the businesses allowed the sale of alcohol to the decoy.

The establishments where sales occurred were off-sale locations. Those who sell to a minor face a minimum fine of \$250, and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the alcoholic beverage licenses where the sales of alcohol to minors occurred. That may include a fine, a suspension of the liquor license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

ABC is conducting the compliance checks state-wide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Minor Decoy operations have been conducted by local law enforcement throughout the state since the 1980's. In 1994, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that use of underage decoys is a valid tool of law enforcement to ensure that liquor licensees are complying with the law.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.